

## RIVERSIDE: Officials plan for two redevelopment outcomes

By **PE Politics** on April 26, 2011 6:50 PM



Riverside officials are planning for two scenarios -- one that would wrap up current redevelopment projects over the next two years and shrink the development staff that handles those projects, and another that would finish a dismantling of the redevelopment agency that has already begun.

City Manager Brad Hudson outlined the choices for the council at a workshop Tuesday. If state legislators adopt one of several plans to reform redevelopment, the city would finish current projects such as renovations at the municipal auditorium and convention center, but limited money would be available for future projects or debt.

If redevelopment is abolished, as Gov. Jerry Brown has proposed, Hudson said the city would lose \$11 million in funding the first year.

In either scenario, the city likely will start selling some properties it owns that were purchased with redevelopment funds.

But Hudson noted the council already has taken several steps to fast-track projects and secure future funding against possible state changes. Just like a private sector business would do in the face of a hostile takeover, he said, the city has spent its money and issued more debt.

"We are a much less desirable target for the state now because if they take us over, there is nothing left for them to steal," Hudson said.

— **ALICIA ROBINSON**  
*arobinson@PE.com*